

CLAIMS

1. A method of attaching a load carrier fixing member to a vehicle, the method comprising applying adhesive to the vehicle roof and/or the fixing member, and attaching the fixing member to the vehicle, for subsequent attachment of a load carrier to the fixing member, the fixing member comprising a surface for adhering to the vehicle, characterised in that the surface for adhering to the vehicle comprises at least one undercut and/or dovetail.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface for adhering to the vehicle is indented.
- 15 3. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein a load carrier for attaching to the load carrier fixing member is a roof rail or roof rack.
- 20 4. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the load carrier is a roof rack and the load carrier fixing member is a roof rail.
- 25 5. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the load carrier is attached directly to one or more fixing members.
6. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein a fixing member trim finisher is attached to a non adhered side of the fixing member.
- 30 7. A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the fixing member trim finisher is removably attached to the fixing member.

8. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the fixing member comprises at least one gap hider.

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9. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the at least one gap hider is positioned between the fixing member and the vehicle body roof.

10 10. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the method further comprises pre-treating the vehicle, including cleaning a part of the vehicle to be worked on, and/or the use of an abrasive material.

15 11. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the fixing member is secured in position using one or more locating members, which is/are shaped to hold the fixing member in the required position relative to the vehicle roof to receive a load carrier.

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12. A method of attaching a load carrier fixing member to a vehicle, the method comprising applying adhesive to the vehicle roof and/or said fixing member, and attaching said fixing member to the vehicle, the surface for adhering to the vehicle comprises at least one undercut and/or dovetail.

13. A method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the load carrier fixing member is a roof rail.

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14. A method as claimed in claims 12, wherein the load carrier fixing member is a trim finisher.

15. A kit for fitting a load carrier fixing to a vehicle, the kit comprising a fixing member as defined in any one of the preceding claims, and adhesive.

5 16. A fixing member for a vehicle load carrier attachment comprising an adhesive receiving portion and a load carrier fixing portion, wherein the load carrier fixing portion is operable to receive a fixing element of the vehicle load carrier attachment.

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17. A fixing member as claimed in claim 16, wherein the adhesive receiving portion incorporates at least one recess adapted to receive adhesive.

15 18. A fixing member as claimed in claim 16 or 17, wherein the adhesive receiving portion is a locating portion having roof engaging projections, which are operable to locate the locating portion relative to a roof recess.

20 19. A fixing member as claimed in any one of claims 16 to 18, wherein a portion of said fixing member is adapted to be hooked under a part of the vehicle roof.

25 20. A method of securing a vehicle load carrier to a vehicle roof using adhesive and mechanical attachment to the vehicle roof.